

The challenge of managing new observation data flows into a shared testbed/operations IT environment

C. Bruce Entwistle and Austin E. Cross

NOAA Aviation Weather Center, Kansas City, MO, USA

Numerous observing platform data sets are acquired for use in Aviation Weather Testbed (AWT) evaluations. The AWT shares information technology resources with the Aviation Weather Center, an operational forecast center with national and international responsibilities, and must ensure that new data sets and acquisition activities not interfere with operational needs. Significant efforts are required to provide new data in formats compatible with the two systems used in the AWT and AWC – N-AWIPS and AWIPS. Testbed operations are typically conducted during regular business hours while operations occur at all hours, so as evaluation data sets become available for operational meteorologists use levels of after hour support must be communicated.

This discussion describes how these activities supporting evaluations were accomplished, lessons learned, and future plans as data science, acquisition protocols, and computing hardware evolve.